

SENIOR INFORMATION & ASSISTANCE

Northwest Regional Council
1650 Port Drive
Burlington, WA 98233
(360) 428-1301 (360) 428-1302 FAX

Miscellaneous Discounts

Puget Sound Energy 1-800-321-4123 (7 a.m. - 9 p.m., Monday-Friday)

Budget Payment Plan

A monthly, averaged payment plan (not a cost savings or discount program). Customers may enroll immediately but estimates are more accurate with a billing history of one year. If late on two payments, customer will be removed from the Plan and the total balance is due. Customers should check with Puget Power concerning re-enrollment.

Energy Fund

A program to assist with payment of Puget Power bills for customers in extreme financial crises. Administered by Salvation Army. Funds generally available from mid-January through late spring. Contributions come from customers, company employees and stockholders.

Other Assistance

Energy Assistance and Home Repair

Skagit County Community Action Agency (360-416-7585 or 360-428-1011) will provide assistance towards power bill. Sign-up times vary during the year.

Home Weatherization

Housing Authority of Skagit County (360-856-1223) offers assistance in making homes more energy efficient. Weather stripping, caulking, repair of broken windows, and the addition of insulation are some of the things that can be done. More extensive repairs involving roofs, plumbing, and electrical work can also be done on owner-occupied dwellings that qualify. Repairs and energy improvements made to owned mobile homes, which are in mobile home parks, as well as those on owned property, are allowed. There are income limitations for all facets of the program and proof of income must be provided. Seniors are on a priority list

Home Repair Loans and Grants

Rural Development (360-428-4322) provides loans up to \$20,000 at 1% interest and grants up to \$7,500 for improvements and repairs affecting health and safety. This includes repairs such as roof, plumbing, heat source, septic tank, wiring, etc. Applicants must be 62+ with income under \$19,850.00 for one and \$22,700.00 for two (income for this purpose is calculated by determining the gross annual income minus \$400 for an elderly family). Additional information on web site: www.rurdev.usda.gov/wa

Other Utility Assistance

Water/Garbage

Discounts are available in some cities. Applicants who qualify will receive a discount on the following utilities: Anacortes – water, sewer, garbage; Burlington – garbage; Mount Vernon – sewer, drainage, garbage; Sedro- Woolley – garbage. Contact your respective city utility for actual application procedure and income eligibility guideline.

Telephone

AT&T 1-800-288-4622, Verizon 1-800-483-4100. Eligible if receiving Medicaid or SSI benefits from DSHS (medical “coupons” or food stamps). Call your local phone service and give them your DSHS case number. Base charge and installation fee is variably discounted and possible discounts on monthly service rate may be available.

Property Tax

Property Tax Exemption

Skagit County Assessor (360-336-9370). Homeowners, age 61+, may receive reduction on property taxes. Eligible if income is less than \$35,000. Seniors with incomes over this figure but below \$40,000 may apply for the State’s Deferment Program, in which property taxes are paid after the eventual sale of the home.